

ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

In accordance with the provisions of the Massachusetts General laws, Chapter 30A, Section 20, notice is hereby given for the following meeting of the:

***Arlington School Committee
Standing Subcommittee: Facilities
Monday, February 13, 2023
9:15 AM***

Conducted by Remote Participation <https://www.mass.gov/doc/order-suspending-certain-provision-of-open-meeting-law/download>

Topic: Arlington School Committee - Facilities Subcommittee Meeting

*Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83429795396>*

*Meeting ID: 834 2979 5396
One tap mobile
+16469313860,,83429795396# US
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+1 646 931 3860 US
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Open Meeting (J. Thielman)

Approval of December 12, 2022 Minutes

Discussion of proposed motion (to be drafted by D. Heim) to request that the School Committee

authorize an appraisal of property near Ottoson Middle School

Update on facilities issues addressed at last meeting (R. Behrent and M. Mason)

New Business

Adjournment (J. Thielman)

The listings of matters are those reasonably anticipated by the Chair, which may be discussed at the meeting. Not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law.

Stated times and time amounts, listed in parenthesis, are the estimated amount of time for that particular agenda item. Actual times may be shorter or longer depending on the time needed to fully explore the topic.

Submitted by Jeff Thielman

Massachusetts law requires all open session meetings of public bodies to be accessible to members of the public, including those with disabilities. If you need reasonable accommodations in order to participate in the meeting, contact the Administrative Assistant to the Arlington School Committee Liz Diggins at ediggins@arlington.k12.ma.us.



Town of Arlington, Massachusetts

Meeting Location (Via Zoom)

Summary:

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+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 305 224 1968 US

+1 309 205 3325 US

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 689 278 1000 US

+1 719 359 4580 US

+1 253 205 0468 US

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

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Town of Arlington, Massachusetts

Open Meeting (J. Thielman)



Town of Arlington, Massachusetts

Approval of December 12, 2022 Minutes

ATTACHMENTS:

Type	File Name	Description
▢ Minutes	Facilities_Subcommittee_minutes_(12.12.22)_draft_for_approval.pdf	Facilities Subcommittee Meeting Minutes - 12-12-2022

Arlington School Committee

Facilities Subcommittee Meeting, December 12, 2022

-DRAFT Minutes-

Attendance

Subcommittee members:	Jeff Thielman (Chair), Kirsi Allison-Ampe, M.D., Jane Morgan
District administration:	Elizabeth Homan, Ph.D. (Superintendent), Michael Mason (CFO),
Town administration:	Robert Behrent (Director of Facilities, Town of Arlington)
Other Attendees	Julianna Keyes (President, Arlington Education Association)

Mr. Thielman called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m. The meeting took place in person in the School Committee room. Dr. Allison-Ampe arrived at 8:37 a.m.

Minutes

The minutes from the subcommittee meeting on November 16, 2022, were approved unanimously. Motion by Ms. Morgan, second by Mr. Thielman.

Discussion of concerns raised by the Arlington Education Association (AEA) at the December 1, 2022, School Committee meeting

Parmenter School

Concerns were raised by the heating and ventilation system at Menotomy pre-school, which is currently located in the Parmenter School, a facility owned by the Town of Arlington. Upgrades were done at the facility to allow Menotomy preschool to move from Arlington High School to the Parmenter while construction was taking place at the school.

Mr. Thielman informed the group that limited HVAC work was done by the AHS project team at Parmenter. The primary focus was the addition of an elevator and finishes in several spaces. The building needed to be ADA-compliant to accommodate the preschool.

Ms. Keyes noted that the heat at Parmenter can shut down at least once a year. She reported that the Early Childhood Coordinator, Joyce Schlenger, calls the town when this happens, and workers do respond. However, it takes 4-5 hours for the building to warm up; this is essentially one day of school. When the heat is working, it can be very hot in some rooms. There is also a ceiling leak.

Mr. Behrent said that he would send staff to take a closer look at issues in the building. HVAC improvements would be part of a longer-term plan to upgrade the facility.

Arlington High School

The subcommittee reviewed a spreadsheet put together by AHS Assistant Principal Bill McCarthy listing issues in the old school building and the new building. Most issues were HVAC-related. Staff report that they are running air conditioning during the winter in rooms and offices that are too hot. One room in the new building has a broken window, which is awaiting repair.

Mr. Behrent noted that there are air leaks throughout the system in the old building. The new HVAC technician is planning to identify the air leaks and repair them.

Regarding the new building, Mr. Mason said that an issue is managing the HVAC control system. He said the district is finalizing a Building Automated Systems Manager position. This role will be responsible for managing the controls of all 10 APS buildings. Mr. Mason and Mr. Behrents believe this position will reduce HVAC concerns in the new facility.

Dallin School

The AEA identified 16 spaces in the building with issues ranging from heating, water damage, dried mold spores, flooring in the gym, and non-operational windows. Mr. Mason said the town is replacing rooftop HVAC units, which should address many of the issues raised. Once the units are replaced, work orders will be put in to address flooring and other issues.

Ottoson

The main offices, music rooms, and rooms off the lobby are very cold. Staff generally use space heaters to make it comfortable enough to work. Some rooms are too hot and do not respond to thermostat controls. Mr. Behrent said he would visit the school to learn more.

Other

The subcommittee discussed mice in various facilities in the district. Mr. Behrent said this is an issue that his office is addressing, noting that this is an ongoing issue in buildings everywhere.

Ms. Keyes said that she appreciated the school committee and district leadership hearing the concerns of teachers and looks forward to further updates in the new year.

Playground Updates

The subcommittee discussed the Brackett playground. It's not clear where this project is in Capital Planning Committee discussions. Dr. Allison-Ampe asked that the district confirm whether the playground at Robbins Farm across the street is a viable alternative should the playground be unusable or in repair/rebuild for an extended period. Dr. Allison-Ampe questioned how feasible is to manage hundreds of children crossing the street to play in the Robbins Farm playground during recess.

It was noted that there has been a lot of turnover on the Capital Planning Committee, which means the district has to spend more time educating new members on the district's needs.

Mr. Mason said he would get a report on which playgrounds are owned by the town and which ones are owned by the school district soon.

Motion to Adjourn

At 9:30 a.m., Dr. Allison-Ampe moved to adjourn the meeting. Second by Ms. Morgan. Motion approved unanimously.

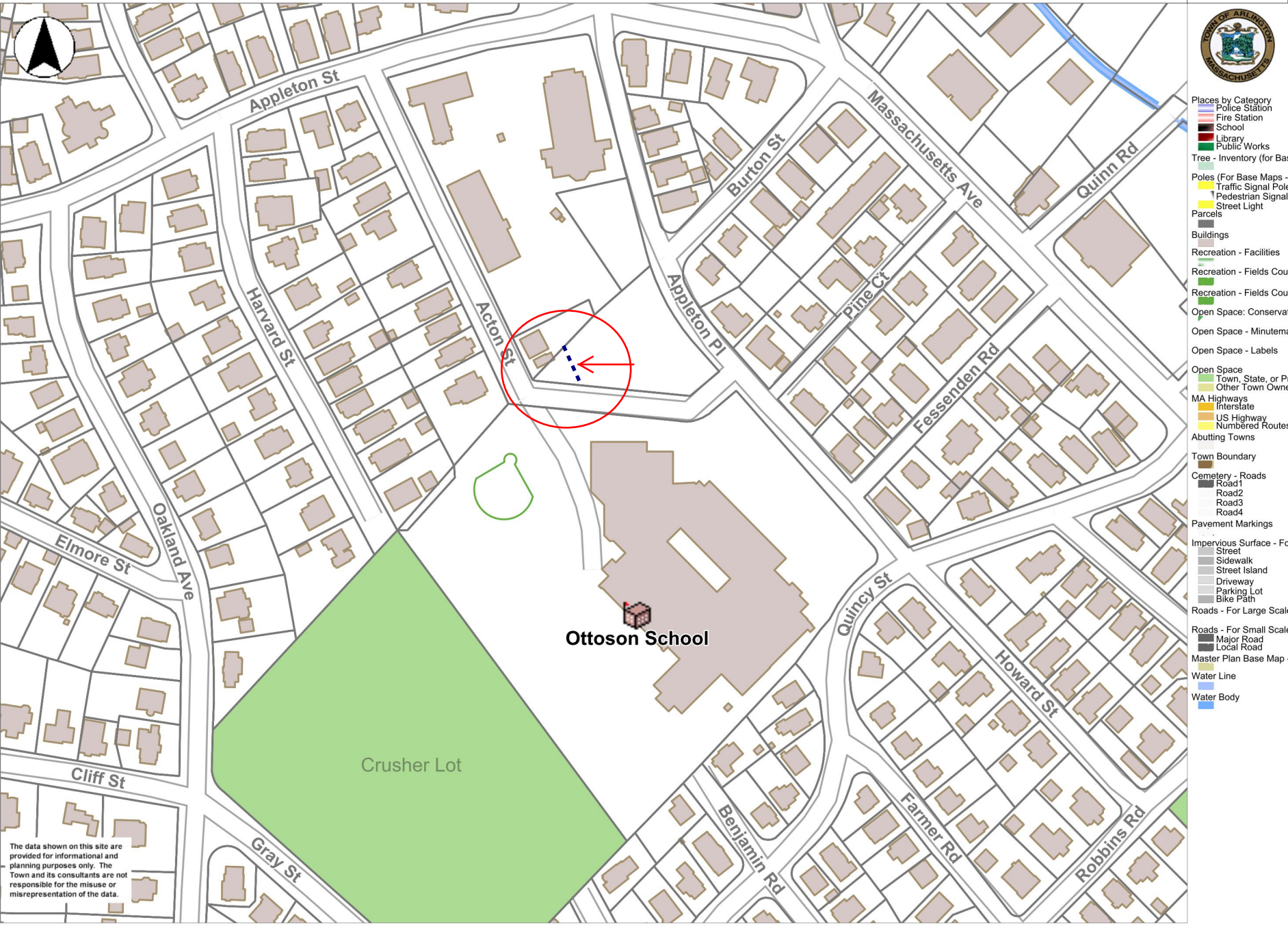


Town of Arlington, Massachusetts

Discussion of proposed motion (to be drafted by D. Heim) to request that the School Committee authorize an appraisal of property near Ottoson Middle School

ATTACHMENTS:

Type	File Name	Description
Backup Material	Acton_Street_and_Stratton_on_GIS.pdf	Acton Street and Ottoson on GIS



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Town of Arlington, MA



Town of Arlington, Massachusetts

Update on facilities issues addressed at last meeting (R. Behrent and M. Mason)



Town of Arlington, Massachusetts

New Business



Town of Arlington, Massachusetts

Adjournment (J. Thielman)



Town of Arlington, Massachusetts

Submitted by Jeff Thielman